

## THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating apnea or an apnea disorder in a patient which  
5 comprises administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of R(+) ondansetron, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of its S(-) stereoisomer.
2. A method of preventing or managing apnea or an apnea disorder in a  
10 patient which comprises administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of R(+) ondansetron, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of its S(-) stereoisomer.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the apnea or apnea  
15 disorder being treated is selected from the group consisting of central apnea, deglutition apnea, obstructive apnea, sleep apnea, and sleep induced apnea.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the patient is a human.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1, wherein R(+) ondansetron is administered orally.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein R(+) ondansetron is administered as  
25 a tablet or a capsule.
7. The method according to claim 5, wherein said R(+) ondansetron is administered from one to four times a day.
8. The method according to claim 5, wherein the therapeutically  
30 effective amount administered is from about 0.001 mg to about 35 mg.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the amount administered is from about 0.5 mg to about 30 mg.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the amount administered is from about 1 mg to about 25 mg.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein R(+) ondansetron is administered parenterally.

12. The method according to claim 1, wherein the amount of R(+) ondansetron, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof provided, is greater than approximately 90% by weight of the total ondansetron.

13. The method according to claim 1, wherein R(+) ondansetron or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of its S(-) stereoisomer, is administered together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. The method according to claim 1, wherein R(+) ondansetron hydrochloride is administered.

15. A method of treating apnea or an apnea disorder in a patient which comprises administering an amount of R(+) ondansetron, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of its S(-) stereoisomer, and a therapeutically effective amount of at least one anti-apnea therapeutic agent.

16. A method of preventing or managing apnea or an apnea disorder in a patient which comprises administering an amount of R(+) ondansetron, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of its S(-) stereoisomer, and a therapeutically effective amount of at least one anti-apnea therapeutic agent.

17. The method according to claim 15, wherein the apnea or apnea disorder being treated is selected from the group consisting of central apnea, deglutition apnea, obstructive apnea, sleep apnea, and sleep induced apnea.

5 18. The method of claim 15, which comprises administering R(+) ondansetron and the at least one therapeutic agent concurrently or sequentially.

19. The method of claims 15, wherein said R(+) ondansetron is administered orally from one to four times per day.

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20. The method according to claim 15, wherein the amount administered is from about 0.001 mg to about 35 mg.